

Shevington Parish Council
Clerk's Report to the Council Meeting of 26 May 2016

Road Surface in Back Lane

Having received a number of complaints about the condition of the road surface in Back Lane, Dist Cllr Paul Collins inspected it himself and spoke to the LA's Highways Department about the issue. He has been able to confirm that resurfacing work for the stretch of the road from Golden Days Garden Centre to the pumping station is scheduled to take place during this financial year. He currently does not have the exact dates when the work will take place. However, once this information is made available it will appear on the appropriate roadwork's bulletin and on Wigan Council's website.

In the meantime Wigan Council have been undertaking carriageway drainage works outside Golden Days Garden centre. To undertake this work safely temporary traffic signals have been in operation.

Parish Plan Review Questionnaire

The deadline for responses was 7 May. Mr B King has analysed responses and will present a report to the General Purposes Committee meeting in June.

Notice Boards

The Parish Council notice board at Woodnook shops was removed about a month ago by Spar's workforce to enable a new security camera to be fitted. This left insufficient room for the notice board. In view of this, Spar's management arranged for a frame to be built in the same location and the notice board has been fitted to the frame and is back in use.

Litter Bins from Wigan Council

I sent the Parish Council's request for new bins to be provided by Wigan Council at three locations to Arthur Price of the Refuse Department and received a reply. Arthur reported that, unfortunately, at this moment in time his Department have no funding for new litter bins. He suggested that we speak with the district councillors to enquire if they could fund them through the Brighter Borough Fund. If they agreed, the Refuse Department would be delighted to service them.

In the light of his reply, I contacted the District Councillors. Dist Cllr Paul Collins replied that, subject to funds being available, they would be willing to fund the one at Woodnook shops and also another one on the bridge over the river in Gathurst Road.

Availability of Parish Council Documents in Hard Copy

The file of documents is now available for reference in Shevington Library.

Charity Awards 2016

A resident has reported that Keep Britain Tidy's 'We're Watching You' campaign has been shortlisted for this year's Charity Awards. The initiative has dramatically reduced dog fouling by up to 90% in some areas of the country.

'We're Watching You' uses glow-in-the-dark technology and the premise that individuals will modify their behaviour, if they feel they are being watched, to tackle the most offensive form of littering, dog fouling. The signs glow after dark at a time when people feel they can 'get away with' not picking up after their pets because they can't easily be seen.

The campaign has been adopted by more than 100 local authorities across England and

partners have reported reductions in dog fouling of up to 90% since introducing the posters. Keep Britain Tidy have been shortlisted in the Environment and Conservation category in the Charity Awards, the sector's most highly-regarded excellence recognition scheme.

All 30 shortlisted charities this year have been judged by an independent panel of sector leaders as having demonstrated outstanding best practice from which other organisations can learn. The winners will be announced on the 9 June.

May Newsletter

This is in the process of being delivered.

TfGM

Dist Cllr Paul Collins has forwarded information from TfGM about potential benefits to residents from station upgrades. One of the stations mentioned is Gathurst Station. The document is attached.

The Police & Crime Commissioner's Vision for Local Policing

Dist Cllr Paul Collins has shared an email he has received from Tony Lloyd outlining his vision for local policing, He says:

“One of my most important jobs is setting the priorities for policing and community safety in Greater Manchester. After speaking to elected representatives, local organisations, community groups, businesses and many individuals across Greater Manchester, I've identified six key priorities for policing and community safety. These set out how Greater Manchester Police will work with local councils, health, other agencies and – most importantly of all – local people, to make Greater Manchester safer and stronger.

We've made a short film to explain the plan which you can see here:

<https://youtu.be/vh-hibu5UwQ>

These aren't really my priorities – they belong to us all. Delivering them will be challenging as we face cuts in government funding to our local services. But it is an ambitious programme, which I believe we can deliver together. Ultimately this is about all of us working together to make Greater Manchester even greater. It puts the people of Greater Manchester at its heart.

You can read the plan in full by visiting:

www.gmpcc.org.uk/plan

This is an ongoing conversation and, as ever, I would be really pleased to hear your views.”

Letter from LCC re: CC 08/13/0140: The installation and operation of a 5MW bio-liquid to power generation facility. Railway Pad, Appley Lane North, Appley Bridge
Rob Jones, LCC's Planning Officer, has sent the following reply to our questions about this application:

“1. Written notification of the date of commencement of the construction phase of the development was provided on the 18th April 2016 to the County Planning Authority and hence was within 7 days of such commencement on the 16th April 2016.

2. Details reserved by Condition 7 were approved on the 15th April 2016.

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3. *The access gates at the entrance to the private access road to the site off the west side of Appley Lane North were re-positioned on or before the 16th April 2016 so as to be a minimum distance of 10m from the nearside edge of the footway on the west side of Appley Lane North, and they do open away from the highway. The work was undertaken prior to any other aspect of the development.*

4. *The development, the subject of planning permission 08/13/0140, did commence prior to the expiry of the permission on the 17/04/16 and is therefore still valid."*

We originally sent our questions to ABCAGE and asked them to ask them at their meeting with the Planning Officer over this matter. Subsequent minutes received from ABCAGE of that meeting indicated that our questions were not asked, so the questions were forwarded to LCC. ABCAGE's minutes with Mr King's observations are attached.

Bus Service 3A

LCC's Integrated & public Transport Department have written in reply to our enquiry about the future of the 3A bus service:

"There are no plans to amend Service 3A at this current time. There was some rumours about extending the service back through to Wrightington Hospital. However, this can't be accommodated within the current timetable.

We are currently collating ongoing customer feedback on the new tendered bus service network and are assessing whether any of these suggestions can be incorporated into the services."

OPSTA Update

Attached is the update from Alan Fantom of OPSTA about the campaign to save services to Piccadilly from Gathurst and Appley Bridge Stations.

Community Involvement at Rail Stations

Arriva Rail North have acknowledged our enquiry about Arriva's position with respect to community involvement, but have not otherwise provided a reply.

Unadopted Road Behind the Parade of Shops in Gathurst Lane

Dist Cllr Paul Collins will try to confirm whether Wigan & Leigh Homes are willing to fund half the costs of the repairs now that they are known.

K.M.P. 26.05.16